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**Earp, E. L.** *The Social Engineer*. Pp. xxiii, 326. Price, \$1.50. New York. Eaton & Mains, 1912.

The author is Professor of Christian Sociology at Drew Theological Seminary. Dr. Earp is known as one of the most active and practical teachers in the Methodist seminaries, and his earlier work, "Social Aspects of Religious Institutions," received favorable comment. He feels that within the church just now are groups anxious for social service who want something to guide them in their studies and this guidance he seeks to furnish.

"All human life to-day is being socialized in consciousness and in activity." This quotation might well stand as the motto of the book. This involves constructive programs, not merely relief. The great weakness in the church is the lack of social engineers. "We need a type of man who knows the value of social machinery, and how to run it, and is willing to stay on the job." The volume is divided into two parts: (1) The Social Engineer in the Making, and (2) The Social Engineer at Work.

The first part is really a discussion of social theory largely in terms of Cooley and Giddings. Social Consciousness, Organization, Classification, Efficiency, Progress, Friendship, etc., are the main topics. "In religious education we have been for years drawing out of the treasure house of knowledge the truths of the Word of God for human conduct, but for some reason we have not gotten the results in achievement for the human race that all this teaching would demand." The Sunday School has failed to connect its teaching with real life. The church should inspire for leadership. The peril lies not in outer opposition but in the inner failure to meet the opportunities for service. The church fails to attract the multitude, its "spiritual death rate" is too large, it fails to lead present social movements. These, thinks Dr. Earp, are its greatest perils.

Part II is more concrete. Social service involves: "those serious altruistic activities of Christian people that help somebody out of difficulty and better the moral tone of the community."

The chapter headings indicate the ground covered, "How to Work the Specific Fields of Social Service," "Socialized Charity," "Team Work for the Community," "The City Problem," "The Social Settlement," "The Social Causes of the Boy Problem," etc. These chapters are characterized by a good common sense attitude and teem with valuable suggestions.

Naturally the main theme is the part the church may play. Naturally too the author is careful to emphasize that the newer viewpoints conserve the value of the old. To a large extent, even the old terminology is preserved and this is very wise when one considers the conservative background of the average man Dr. Earp is trying to reach. It is difficult to see how the most conservative could object to his programs, and yet his criticisms are keen.

The chief cause of the "spiritual death rate" is "neglect of childhood by the religious social groups." More provision must be made for the young. Our Christian resources must be conserved. In parts of cities and in some rural districts the church has lost ground often because of lack of adaptation. Our resources are largely wasted. Idle buildings, over-churched towns are a reflection on Christians. These problems must be studied and solved. A new "Social Emphasis in Education" is coming.

The test of a text-book is the reaction of this class. Apparently Dr. Earp has produced a volume that will stand the test. It is to be hoped that many groups will make use of it.

There is a good index and a bibliography. When another man prepares a bibliography one is usually surprised at certain omissions and certain inclusions. Here I would only mention that to me it seems strange that *THE ANNALS* is not mentioned among the periodicals.

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**Ellis, H.** *The Problem of Race-Regeneration.* Pp. 67. **Saleeby, C. W.** *The Method of Race-Regeneration.* Pp. 64. **News holme, A.** *The Declining Birth-Rate.* Pp. 60. Price, 50 cents each. New York: Moffat, Yard & Co., 1911.

The subject of race control—eugenics—has been agitated in England since Galton wrote his "Hereditary Genius," but the active propaganda for negative and positive eugenics arose with the present generation. The leaders in this eugenic propaganda movement are represented in the series of tracts which are announced under the general title "New Tracts for the Times."

The three tracts under review are essentially similar in viewpoint, yet so skilfully edited that they do not conflict in any sense. The general problem of race regeneration is stated by Havelock Ellis in terms of heredity and of environment. After analyzing the numerous nineteenth century attempts to improve life through regenerations of the environment, Dr. Ellis writes a chapter headed *The Problems of To-day*. These he considers, first Sanitation, second Factory Legislation, third Child Education in its broadest sense, fourth a guarantee of sound parenthood. "The Next Step in Social Reform," as might readily be imagined from the above outline, is, therefore, the education of the public in the problem of eugenics. Thus Dr. Ellis has thrown all of his emphasis away from the problem of income to the problem of increasing the standard of individual efficiency. Although the problem of income does not enter into the discussion which he has outlined, he should certainly have given it a passing mention in connection with his analysis of present day problems.

Dr. Saleeby's well known advocacy of a militant form of eugenics lends special interest to his discussion of the method of race regeneration. Three things, he maintains, are essential: First, we must believe that race regeneration is possible; second, we must believe in science; and third, in the nobleness of the cause of race improvement. Starting with this propagandic attitude, the author classes eugenics as primary and secondary. The primary problems deal with "Nature" or "Heredity;" the secondary problems with "Nurture" or "Environment." "Natural Eugenics need not be discussed here," writes the author, "because its various aspects are in constant discussion everywhere" (p. 6). Therefore, he confines himself to an analysis of the positive and negative methods of eugenics. Those who are familiar with Dr. Saleeby's "Parenthood and Race Culture" will find little additional material in the present volume.

"The Declining Birth Rate" is a compilation of birth-rate statistics together with a brief analysis of the causes and effects of the present high birth-rate in